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Weather Forecast for Friday.

Washington, Dec. 2.-For Oklahoma and Indian Territory: Snow, probably clearing in the afternoon; northerly winds. For Missouri: Snow or rain; northeasterly winds, becoming northerly; probably colder Friday night.

For Kansas: Snow, clearing Friday afternoon; northerly winds.

GREATER KANSAS CITY.

The people of this enterprising community undertake many things in the way of municipal improvements, and accomplish them all. When Kansas City sets out to do a thing she does it. In fact, citizens have become so accustomed to seeing important undertakings carried through success fully that there is sometimes danger of failures through the apathy which this serene confidence begets.

The vote in yesterday's election was light so light that if there had been any formidable opposition the extension amendment would have been endangered. But if there had been strong opposition the friends of the measure would probably have been at the polls in much greater numbers As it was, the proposition carried almost unanimously, the vote being in a ratio of about 17 to 1.

It is unnecessary to dwell on the advant ages that annexation of this new territory will be to Kansas City. All that has been made plain heretofore. It requires little argument to show that the acquisition of a large area of populous and wealthy territory and important drainage facilities is an excellent thing for any city.

AN INSTANCE IN WAGES.

The announcement that from 25,000 to 20,000 operatives in the woolen mills of New England have received notice of a 20 per cent advance in wages, and that thousands of others will enjoy like evidences of prosperity in the near future, must be gailing news to the political agitators.

It has been only a few days since notice was given all the employes of the Missouri Pacific railway system that they are to receive an advance of 10 per cent in their wages.

These are only recent instances of a general betterment of conditions among the wage-earners of this country, as a result of returning prosperity. The improvement in wages will go on, and will doubtless be particularly noticeable during the next six

When general depression comes; the first to feel its effects are the producers of raw material; the next are the manufacturers, and the last are the wage-earners. Natthe first to be benefited are the farmers and others who have raw material to sell, the next are the manufacturers, and the last are the factory people.

Those who have such distorted vision as to be unable to see any signs of prosperity since the Republican administration began have been wont to ask why there has not been a general and conspicuous increase in the wages of the working people. They have been reminded that the first thing to be done for the wage-earners is to give more of them employment, and the next thing is to give all of them better pay. Hundreds of thousands of men who were idle at the beginning of the McKinley administration are now employed, thanks largely, to the passage of the Dingley bill, which gives sustaining protection to our manufacturers, and there has been, too, a noticeable increase in wages.

The Christmas gift that has been given the New England operatives is a striking instance of the effects of putting a trustworthy party at the helm.

PECULIAR APPEAL TO THE MASSES. The Aurora Club, once a proud organization of the straight Democracy of Jackson county, but now a queer combination of Popocrats and silver Republicans, has passed a resolution against the department stores, declaring that they are inimical to

the interests of the masses. This is a thoroughly demagogic as well as fallacious bid for popular favor. It is in keeping with the principles of Bryanism, which is first of all an appeal to class pre judice; but in this instance it will be rather difficult to arouse the passions of the poorer people against those who are supposedly

It is doubtless true that the large stores are a menace to the prosperity of the smaller ones. It is still a legitimate question as to whether a city would not be better off if its retail interests were more widely scattered rather than so conspicuously cen tralized. The problem is a familiar one, and has been widely discussed, but it is a new issue of local politics.

If this question is to be dragged into pollties, it is reasonable to suppose that a movement against the department stores would enlist the sympathy and co-operation of the merchants who are engaged in trade in a small way. It is rather peculiar, however, to appeal to the "masses" for support of this opposition, for the big department stores are successful only in proportion to the volutary and interested support they get from the masses themselves.

The department stores differ from trusts in that they do not secure absolute control of certain commodities and force a hardship upon the consumers by raising the prices. They work a hardship upon the small dealers very often by doing business on such a large scale as to be able to cut the standard prices to consumers.

The consumer buys where he can buy the best for the least money. If, in pursuance of this principle of economy, he is led to make his purchases at the department store, he will be loath to recognize in these institutions an enemy to his own inter-

There is a legitimate ground for the dis cussion of the relation of the department store to the general business interests of : city, but the "masses," to which the Bryanites are forever trying to appeal in their sophistries, care little where they make

their purchases, so long as they secure good bargains. They can be relied upon to oppose the department stores when it is shown that they can do better elsewhere. They cannot be relied upon for this opposi tion simply because the Bryanites call upon them to oppose all sorts of business

combination. The friction between the departmen stores and the minor merchants is simply a factional contention in a particular class; the only interest the masses have is in their security against a combination of all merchants into a tyrannical trust, of which combiation there is not the slightest dan-

CONVENTION HALL LOCATED.

There is a considerable feeling of disappointment that the effort to secure the corner at Tenth and Baltimore as a convention hall site was not successful. Of all the locations offered, that was manifestly the best. But the lot finally chosen-that offered by Mr. Stilwell at the corner of Thirteenth and Central-is a very good second choice and will give general satisfaction. Some, in fact, prefer it for the very reason that it is not so centrally located. believing that a hall of this character should not be too near the business center. At any rate, the selection is made and will probably stand.

The problem of location being solved, the work of collecting subscriptions and getting ready for building can go energetically on. It is now settled that the great auditorium is to be, what it is to be and where it is to be. The only remaining question of big importance is how soon it is going to be. The answer to this question will depend largely on the promptness with which the calls for subscription pryments are met.

THE POPE IN AMERICAN ELECTIONS. During the recent campaign in Greater New York a circular was distributed among voters of every degree which charged in specific terms that Roman Catholicism, "with its sweeping claims over the morals of men, is reaching out over every rational or intentional act, including the act of voting," and therefore is undermining the great republic, whose perpetuity depends upon individual sovereignty." Further along this circular declares that the Catholic church is focused in its infallible head, the pope, who may, with a word, guide the votaries of his church into a political action that is not their individual choice.

This circular has called out a reply from Archbishop Corrigan in which he denies that the quality of infallibility resting in the pope can be extended to control the act of voting or any other act involving government or the questions of citizenship. That is to say, if the pope should attempt to instruct the members of his church in America how they should vote his action would have no weight or force under the doctrine of infallibility and the voters so instructed would be under no churchly obligations to obey him. In explanation of what the church teaches regarding papa infallibility, the archbishop quotes from the definition given by the vatican council

as follows: "The Roman pontiff, when he speaks excathedra, that is to say, when in the exercise of his office of pastor and teacher of all Christians, he, in virtue of his supreme authority, defines that a doctrine on faith and morals is to be held by the whole church, by the assistance of God, promised to him in the person of the blessed Peter, has that infallibility with which it was the will of our Divine Re deemer that His church should be furmorals, and that, therefore, these definitions of the Roman pontiff, of themselves and not through the consent of the church, are irreformable."

According to this decree the pope is infallible when he speaks ex-cathedra; that is, when he exercises his office as teacher to the whole church and not to any division of the organization, and then only in matters of faith or morals. "The privilege of infallibility," says Archbishop Corrigan, "is restricted, therefore, to the ect of teaching; it does not extend to an act of government, nor even to an act of teaching, if performed by the pontiff as a private teacher. Should he order Catholics to vote a particular ballot, his action, by its very nature, as a mere act of authority, would not be shielded by the mantle of infallibility. Should he, by any possibility, direct Catholics to vote for one or the other of the candidates now running for mayor of New York, his act would evidently not be an act of teaching regarding faith and morals, much less an act intended to bind the universal church. Faith and morals are the object of the church's teaching office, not science or history, or politics."

Casting aside the question of infallibility, the archbishop defies any one to show a single instance during the more than one hundred years since the establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in America where the pope attempted to control the action of voters. "In all that period," said he, "can single syllable be adduced emanating from the Roman pontiff for the purpose of directing our ballots? If such a fact has never existed in all our history, is it not a little silly to fear where there is no fear? Is there anything more supremely ridiculous than the bugaboo that the pope or the church is reaching out to control 'every rational or intentional act, including the act

of voting'?" Archbishop Corrigan has perhaps overlooked the best of all arguments to show that the pope does not meddle with American elections, and that is the manner in which the, Catholics scatter themselves among all the political parties at every election. If ever in an open or secret manner he attempted such a thing as directing the ballots of his American churchmen, he must have received a tremendous shock in learning how illy his commands were obeved.

Whatever may be our opinions as to the merits or demerits of any religion, it is not the part of good politics or good citizenship to accuse it falsely. Of all places in the world this lesson should have been learned in New York, where the extravagant utterances of a partisan once lost a political party the presidency.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Hanna's grip is no doubt trouble to him, but it is much more so to McLean and other Buckeye Democrats.

December is starting in in a way to demonstrate that no mistake was made in classing it as a winter month.

Secretary Sherman, it is said, has a cold and is not feeling at all well. Just how the cold feels is not explained.

St. Louis can poultice her wounded pride with the reflection that Dr. Nansen didn't come within hundreds of miles of the pole.

best that could have been selected, but it will answer. Possibly it is the best available site.

Greater Kansas City should have carried by a greater vote. If the opposition had not been insignificant the amendment might have falled.

Austria should try to arrange some sort of arbitration trenty that will enable her reichsrath to settle differences without In addition to assaulting the civil service

law, it is presumed that General Grosvenor will put forth some efforts in congress to accomplish something useful.

Next to Senator Hanna, Senator Baker receives the largest mail of any man in congress. Kansas is right close up to Ohio in the matter of appetite for office. Kansas farmers are shaking their fat

sides so heartily as they look at their granaries and canceled mortgages, the impres sion has got out that the state is exper-

"I assure you," said Boomer Hews, of Kansas, in his letter to Secretary Bliss, "that our feelings toward the government are friendly." This must lift a great load off of Secretary Bliss' mind. Rusiness men regret that congress can-

not enact any currency legislation of the kind they want, but they can take comfort in the knowledge that it will not enact any of the kind they don't want. The St. Louis man who turned his three

daughters adrift because they failed to

marry in a given time is a monster. How

loes he know that they may not become a

econd edition of the Cherry sisters? The % 000 wood workers in Rhode Island who have just received an increase of 20 per cent in wages will just as likely as not attribute their good fortune to the Dingley bill instead of to the short wheat crop in

India. Wool workers are so thoughtless. The leader of the boomers who are preparing to invade the Wichita mountains warns the government not to interfere with "hungry and desperate men." The suggestion of hungry men in Kansas and Ok lahoma in such a year as this is decidedly

#### KANSAS TOPICS.

The Topeka Capital demands to know, it Webb McNall is not dead, whose corpse it s the New York Life is dragging all over

Speaking of the alleged large circulation of ounterfeit money, the White Cloud Glob declares that the report must be true, for it has not seen a genuine bill for three

Last night Billy Bolton, the former Kan

as newspaper man, who now lives in Ok lahoma, was married to Miss Cecil Good A few weeks ago the commissioners o ner county offered a bounty of 3 cents

each for rabbit scalps. More than 9,000 of It was not a love for pastoral pursuits that led John J. Ingalls to have his home stead set outside of the limits of Atchiso

as farm property. There was an attending reduction in assessment from \$3,500 to \$2,000. H. G. Toler, of Wichita, is campaigning for the Pop nomination for governor on the ssue that with his election there will be but one governor's room in the state hous

he will smoke a pipe and work is

his shirt sleeves. Captain Beck, of the Holton Recorder, has started a gubernatorial boom for Major Hudson, which kicks up considerable dust county.

Colonel Fred Bentley, of Wichita, recently had his kinfolks in Cleveland, O., ship out to him an old sofa that had been the property of his great grandfather and was ore than a hundred years old. He thought he could care for and preserve the relic better than the folks in Ohio. It arrived at Wichita the other day, but had been mashed all to pieces in course of transit.

A funeral service was held in Osage coun ty the other day in commemoration of five members of one family who had died withthree yere young men aged 30, 23 and 19, al fever was the cause of their taking

All his life Farmer Ben Cripps, who has lived in Wabaunsee county since 1857, has had a horror of debt. Only once in his life has he ever owed a man a cent. Twentyfive years ago he gave a note for a mow-ing machine, but within half an hour he commenced to worry over it and at once sold some horses and paid the note. Mr. Cripps is well off.

like to say it is blackmail, but certainly these affidavits are shocking." This was the language of Judge Foster in open court after he had heard the story of how Webb McNall had held up the insurance companies with alleged examinations.

This is the manner in which one of the pastors of Caldwell introduces a revivalist who is holding meetings in that town: "Evangelist Newby, who is now holding a series of meetings at the Church of Christ is not an ex-convict, or a reformed gambler or an unsotted drunkard, or a converted Jew, or an ex-Catholic priest, or a boy preacher; nor has he many great relations only a plain successful Christian evangel-

Mr. S. M. Diffenderfer is the name of a Wichita man who gets drunk, whips his family and smashes things generally about mestead. The other day he started in, but had not gone far when he was ar rested and lodged in jail. Mrs. Diffenderfer ras informed that she would be required to make complaint against her husband which duty she fulfilled by inditing a letter to the chief of police. This letter may not comply with all the legal requirements in the premises, but no one can doubt that the poor woman has set up a sufficient cause of action. It reads as follows: "Sir:-Diffenderfer has swiped a pump

and put it in here, and he sweares he is going to pull it up or kill me I want you to see about it as I cant help myself he ha destroyed everything on the place anyway he put the Butter Baking powder celery pepper and everything in the flour Barre with about 40 pound of flour and poured 2 gallon of coal oil in it and all over my Baked turkey and ples and then went to the pen and killed the little pig and said he would kill the whole outfit and had a

"MRS. DIFFENDERFER."

In one of his published geological reports, Professor Haworth, of the Kansas state university, declared that the Arkansas river bed was filling up with such rapidity that in many places the river must soon break away and find a new channel. Tes-timony to the same effect is given by Mr. Dan Jones, who has lived on the bank of the river in Sedgwick county for a great many years.

"If the sand and trees encroach on the bed of the river during the next five years as they have in the past five years," says Mr. Jones, "there will be no river bed perceptible. During the past five years millions of small cottonwood and willow trees have sprouted up along the banks of the river. They have now grown to the height of about seven feet. Sand has blown among the trees until now what was once the river bed is good substan-The site for the convention hall is not the tall river bank. At the present time where

the main channel of the river was wont to run is covered with cottonwood trees about six feet high. The river bed is gradually filling up and it won't be long until there is no bed at all. There is no the Little Arkansas river empties into it. It is absolutely dry for many miles beyond Hutchinson. The water is all consumby the irrigators in the western part of the state. The trees and sand which is now filling in the river does not occur only on one side of the river, but will probably make a 200 feet fill-in on one man's farm some distance and fill in on the east side. Should there be an exceptionally heavy snowfall this winter in the mountains when the spring thaw comes the farms in this section of the country will be flo and the crops along the river bottom farms

will be destroyed." The death of Hon. George P. Smith, which recently occurred in Ohlo, recalls the dirge that was written by him time of the death and burial of his son. Byron C. Smith, the brilliant young man who held the Greek professorship in the occurred about fifteen years ago, and a the time the father was a resident of Humboldt, Kas. The dirge, filled with reentment, sorrow and skepticism, is as fol-

The gods and I are at strife; My joy hath fled, I'll mourn my dead-All the days, be they many or few. For each day will my sorrow renew. A deadly sorrow is mine

Nor kisses, nor tears, nor wine Can bring me weal; For the gods and I are at strife, And my days with evil are rife. I have known sweet days and years,

And been caressed With a love that gave me tears But the lips that kissed me are cold And are perishing under the mold. O Death, I have felt thy sting-

A nameless thing-Not sin, nor what sin can bring, Nor any thing That can be told in speech of men, But only felt, and known not then. O Grave, art thou friend or foe? Can any tell?

Does thy secret no one know Do the gods dwell there or no? I would know before I go.

No gods dwell there, But its quiet doth entice And banish fear: In the grave where there is no god.

Colonel A. M. Coffey died at the age of 33 years. Colonel Coffey served under ap pointment from President Monroe as post master in South Carolina, seventy-two years ago. In 1852 he was appointed by President Fillmore as Indian agent in number of years. In 1855 he was associated of Paola. He was a member of the Ma sonic fraternity for seventy-one years. For thirteen years he was secretary of the Missouri state grange, and during Cleveland's first term was postmaster at Knot

### MISSOURI POINTS.

Over in Chillicothe when there is a tem porary lull in the social swirl the Pumpkin Pie Club pulls itself together and goes out for a havride.

Gaynor is a Nodaway county town here tofore unknown to fame which is just now reveling in a boom born of a belief that ne of the new Stilwell lines is headed that Way.

A football game between Westminster an

Kemper is to be a feature of the gathering of the college boys to-day at Sedalia, where the intercollegiate oratorical contest The Springfield Republican declines to take seriously that story of the unsucce

ful attempt at bribery of a legislative clerk

and the sum placed at \$7.50 instead of \$750. The Republican papers in his section of the state are saying many pleasant things of W. P. Freeman, of Miller county, in connection with his candidacy for the clerkhip of the United States court in the In-

dian Territory. Conrad A. Deatz is now the proprieto of the Rock Port Democrat, but he has decided to retain the services of George H. Powers in an editorial capacity, an arrangement upon which the readers of the paper are to be congratulated.

"A cunningly written handbook of sec ionalism and treason" is the terse but rigorous characterization by the Maryville Tribune of the history of the American people prescribed by the authorities for ise in the public schools of the state.

The Harrison County Tribune, after careful consideration of the situation, has come o the conclusion that, if another Demo cratic dose must be swallowed in the Third congressional district, T. A. Dunn, of Bethany, would be less unpalatable than any other possibility suggested. General B. M. Prentiss has received his

commission as postmaster of Bethany and will soon take possession of the office. That the valiant old hero will serve the government and the patrons of the office with delity and satisfaction is more than guaranteed by his splendid record. Fortunate Holt county people who have

noney to burn but prefer to make other use of it have raised nearly \$1.100 for investment in China. A missionary school building for the benefit of Chinese girls s to be erected at Chung King, and their contribution is in aid of the project.

No more conclusive proof has yet beer turning prosperity has been for some time sojourning within the borders of Imperial Missouri than that afforded in the story that the burglar who tapped the till in a Lamar newspaper office the other day found therein \$20 in clean, cold cash!

Editor Morris, of the Trenton Tribune who is something of a politician himself as his successful capture of the postoffic in his town shows, calls on the country press to stand up and let itself be counted in favor of the selection of the next chairman of the Republican state committee from among the ranks of the brethren in the rural districts.

Swell society in Sweet Springs is reported lia Capital says, through the mysteriou searance of one of the prominent so cial leaders among the fair sex and a col ored man. That they went together is not known, but gossip has united their names, and a belief has been asserted that they ire together, although they have not been

haps secure the Tarkio college eleven as its gridiron work, and thus be able to put up a game that would interest the Tigers' opboys from the little Northwest Missouri schoool scored a total of 120 points as against an aggregate of only twenty-two A bigamist who is himself no slouch in

that line—for whom in fact a lynching bee is said to be held in possible reserve should he visit again the town from which he re cently eloped-called upon Man-of-Many-Wives Kneeland in the St. Joe jail, where both are temporarily stopping, the other day, and, although not in the same class

latter and he soon developed a marked af-finity for each other. It is improbable, however, that either suggested that they

New York Sun: Having acquired the science of football by putting on a go black sweater and giving one fell kick in the presence of the awed thousands at Columbia, Mo., the Hon. William Jennings Bryan will now take up the subject of the nances of Mexico. Proceeding to the City of Mexico in company with the Hon. Tom Crittenden, from whose cigar boxes an expressive if a limited Spanish vocabulary may be learned on the way, Mr. Bryan will minds and diamonds upon the silver que tion in Mexico. Returning to his native land, he will exhibit his new stores of learning for the usual fee of half the gate money. Whether he is upon the road or at hon this leading juvenile can always be depended upon for rapid work, and few of his rivals in the profession can learn their lines more quickly than he learns his.

Captain John W. Bankhead, who died at his home in Pike county a few days ago, at the age of 81, was a great-great-grand son of Thomas Jefferson. farm in Pike county in 1839, and had ome possessed of considerable wealth, as well as having won recognition as one of the best of citizens. Mr. Bankhead, as an interesting sketch of his life in the Republic relates, was a pioneer of pioneers. He loved the still woods and the solltude of unexplored regions. He was full of that onquering instinct which has made the Anglo-Saxon race the colonizing force of the age. He was a mighty hunter and an uncrring shot. Even in his old age, when too feeble to walk, his sons would assist some large tree. There he would sit and watch for squirrels. He could not see the little animals, but he knew where they were by their motions. He was never mis

When the fall hunting season came or wo years ago, Mr. Bankhead expressed his wish to join the hunting party which was out on the Mississippi river bot toms. His sons remonstrated. Dr. Cary Bankhead said to him:

"Father, I am afraid you will die if you go down there. It is too hard a trip fo

The old gentleman smiled and replied softly:
"That is just what I would like, Cary. cannot imagine anything more beautifuthan to die under the branches of a great tree, with God's own sky above me Remonstrances being useless, his sons

had been his annual custom for so many When the next year came around, Mrs was too feeble to leave his home. has been only a few years since Mr.

Bankhead remarked to a friend: "If I knew of a place that was like this county when I first came here, I would go there. Do you know that I used to shoot deer from my front door when I first came to Missouri? I did; that is the life for me in my ears. Now I wish I could hear i

Mr. Bankhead was remarkably har He was 6 feet 2 inches high, and his well knit figure always commanded attention. He had a straight nose, and gentle, kindly eyes. On the Randolph side of the was descended from the Indian princess Pocahontas. His love of a free, outdoor life nay have been an inheritance from this

Mr. Bankhead's friends say that he neve did even a single hour's work in his life He was a well-to-do man, and was always a "good manager." His home was noted for hospitality, and the good dinners served there have become proverbial, even in that neighborhood of fine housekeepers.

A False Alarm.

From the Chicago Post. The Eastern press is again seriously de bating Mr. Howells' mournful proposition that American verse is in a state of decay, and this despite the fact that Mr. Riley has just caused to be published a ten volume edition of his lyrics; that we have before us a charming work entitled A Little Book of 1 Mr. Coogler is still delighting the world with his Carolina songs, and that the Western bards are preparing for another nvasion of Eagle Lake. We have a reas onable respect for Mr. Howells' opinions but with poets springing up at every meeting of the country roads we cannot see any striking evidences of decay. In fact, the bureau of vital statistics furnishes proof that poets were never so nu merous, so well organized and so aggress sive as they are to-day. This healthy condition we impute to the labors of magzine editors, who have done much to demonstrate that anybody can write poetry if he has the time and a district school education and can write a fair, legible hand. We do not believe that our poets will be discouraged by the thoughtess remark of Mr. Howells, who has just returned from Europe in a most pessi mistic frame of mind, and we call atten tion to the triumph of the poet Pool as vidence that poetry still has a fair marketable value. As the Indiana bard sings: "O, tell me not the poet's lot is hard, And that he sings his strains to dull,

cold ears; For I have seen a simple, rustic bard, Who soothes in rhythm his declining

years. This we take to be a fair example the undaunted poetic spirit of the age. There is no evidence of decay in such virile and hopeful sentiment.

Not Lucky, but Honest and Able.

From the Atchison Globe. The men who hold the big positions are not lucky men; they are smart men, industrious men, and honest men. The president of the Travelers' Insurance Cor lately engaged in a controversy with Webb McNall, insurance commissioner of Kansas. The president of the insurance company literally skinned the Populist official, which he was able to do because he knows more in a minute than McNail wil know in all his life. McNall is really quite dull, the best evidence of which is his lack of honesty. No dishonest man is smart. The truest maxim ever written was that declaring that honesty is the best policy. An honest man may succeed; a thief always fails. E. P. Ripley, president of the Santa Fe railway, is another very bright man. He has just written a reply to an article by W. F. Brown in which he shows that railroad rates in Kansas, considering population, and other pertinent surroundings, are very low. Riplev's article is very readable, and you may depend upon it that he is very careful to tell the truth. No smart man is a liar and Ripley is smart.

The Upset Price for Poetry.

From the Chicago Times-Herald. In Justice Underwood's court a judgment for \$15.25 has been rendered against Captain Peter Lawson and in favor of Isaac A. Pool for two poems written by the plaintiff on the defendant's order to increase the general gayety at the wedding. It was demonstrated to the court that Poet Pool had not only written fiftytwo lines of poetry, but also that some body had caused 250 copies of his lines to be printed and distributed among the wedding guests. The printer's bill was \$5.25. The court allowed the poet's claim

This, we take it, is the first time a local court ever has undertaken to fix an upset price upon Chicago poetry. We do not erstand that Justice Underwood's ruling limits the compensation of local poets to a measly 20 cents a line. We infer that the court desires to offer some slight pro-tection to the muse by decreeing that she shall not be distributed for less than that

price.
Twenty cents a line is cheap enough Anyone who prints poetry ought to be willing to take his medicine like a man and pay the fine assessed against him. If Captain Lawson was instrumental in scattering 250 copies of Mr. Pool's poem

broadcast he should consider himself mighty lucky to get off with a mere of \$10 and costs. On the other hand, of course, if Poet Pool did this of his own should be sued for damages. Until this tangle is straightened out ou sympathies are with the bride, at whom he verses seem to have been fired

An Unfinished Public Career.

From the New York Sun. the Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed's retirement from public life at the end of th present congress are probably losing their has yet to attain the prime of his politi-

cal career, and he is not a quitter.

What would American politics be in the out Tom Reed in the chair, or at least in the very front row of seats?

He has grown, in the estimation of both friends and foes, more rapidly during the last ten years than any other statesman has shown himself a Hercules where a strong man was needed. The record of his services in steering the uncertain, in suppressing the fools, and in promoting the serious business of legislation generally, would probably astonish the country it

The circumstance that while everybody dmires the Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed more or less, there has never been found of personal idolators, is not his least distinguished claim upon public gratitude His sense of humor, as keen and as sans preserved him from that fate. He cannot self. The people need him in a conspicu-Avaricious of wealth? That is not Ton Reed's character. Besides, what merely professional income would compensate him or the life which his own genius has arranged for him, and in which he rejoice

Disappointed? We don't believe it. Ad go, but a reputation such as the Hon dividual merits endures. Who would not rather have been Blaine or Henry Clay

than R. B. Haves? And the speaker has this advantage over either Clay or Blaine, that Destiny has not yet closed the account with him.

The Convict Labor Problem.

From the Philadelphia Press. to feet gratified over the settlement of the convict labor question in that state. The convicts are exclusively employed in the tion of articles used by the variou state departments, and thus do not com all the work they can do and practically pay their way. A difficult problem has thus been solved in a satisfactory man-

Alabama would do well to take a lessor victs are leased to coal and iron comtwo large iron companies fix the price of ing corporations in that state to pay low vages. Canada is talking of exclud Alabama iron, and articles made from it. the importation of manufactured articles composed entirely or in part of convict made material. If there is any way to convict labor Canada would be justified in that course. The United States has a similar law under which it has shut out certain convict made goo Austria and other countries.

The proposed action of Canada is urged by the furnace men of that country. But government pays a bonus of \$3 per ton on all pig iron made entirely from Canadian ores, and 22 on all pig iron made partly from native ores. The duty of \$2.50 a ton on imported pig iron. But with this duty and the addition of a large bounty, Canada is not able to make a success of the pig iron manufacture. There are three blast furnaces in the ninion, one of which has not been in blast for two years, and another one has run intermittently and undergone several reorganizations since its completion in 1892. It is not Alabama iron that troubles Canda so much as unfavorable conditions a home for the production of pig iron. But any action that will compel the two big Alabama corporations to employ ex-

clusively free labor will be a gain. An Ambassador on Pie.

From the Chicago Record. As an innovation in the noble art of cementing international friendships, Ambas sador Hay's great Thanksgiving day speech in London demands the warmest commendation. For years ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary have been struggling to add to the gayety of nations by touching invocations to the goddess of peace. French ambassadors, metaphoricisters to their bosoms. German dip tria how joyous was it to them to mee usly the heartlove-of-their-re spective-fatherlands to celebrate.

Ambassador Hay will neither indulge f platitude nor will he get lachrymose. In his fiery address he talked little of int national relations, but, as the dispatches say, "he paid an eloquent tribute to the unknown artist who in the early days of New England first brought to perfection the pumpkin pie." There is tact, there is endence of spirit, there is friendly instruction to the dinner guest in this kind of speech. No one can feel offended at Mr. Hay's praise of ple. All must be

interested, if not charmed.

In the future, it is hoped, a long line of ambassadors talking on state occ foreign dignitaries will follow Mr. Hay's example and let their fancy sparkle brightly on the themes of mince meat, hasty puddings and salaratus biscuit.

A Georgia man, who was unpopular in his community, insured his life for \$2,000. He took the policy home to his wife and "Maria, here's a life insurance documen

His Wife Won

From the Atlanta Constitution.

fraying my funeral expenses."

for \$2,000." are you feeling to-day?"
"Not well," he replied, "and I don't think
I am long for this world, and I want to say to you that when I die it is my wish that you devote \$1,000 of the money to de-

'Mercy on me!" exclaimed the wife,

"why do you want such an expensive fu-"I'll explain: I'm perfectly satisfied that nobody will attend my funeral, and I want to hire people to go, at so much a head. I'm going out to-day and see what arrengements I can make for attendants on that forthcoming melancholy occasion. If they won't come gratis, why-I'll just hire

He went forth, and at nightfall returned with a dejected look.
"Maria," he said, "it's no use! You can have the whole \$2,000. Just go to my

'em, an' give 'em an order on you for the

neral yourself!" Justice at Last.

From Yonkers Statesman. "Seems to me I've seen your face before?" said the judge, peering through "Yes, your honor, you have," replied the

prisoner; "I am the professor who gives the young lady next door to you lessons on "Six years!" came from the judge, quickly.

An Errencous Report.

From the Indianapolis Journal. husband thoroughly.".

Mrs. Jiggers—"Practice, no doubt. I have

## VICTOR HUGO.

He set the trumpet to his lips, and lo! The clash of waves, the roar of winds that

The strife and stress of Nature's warring

Rose like a storm cloud upon angry wings. He set the reed pipe to his lips, and lo! The wreck of landscape took a rosy glow.

Laughed in the music, like a child that

And Life and Love, and gladness that Love

Master of each, Arch-Master! We that still Walt in the verge and outskirt of the Hill Look upward lonely-lonely to the height

### Where thou hast climbed, forever, out of MY LITTLE DAUGHTER.

My little daughter grows apace: It seems that I must take their place. We have become such friends of late, We might be ministers of state.

Such strange new questionings dilate

The beauty of my little girl. How tall she grows! What subtle grace Doth every movement animate: With garments gathered for the race She stands a goddess slim and straight. Among the myrtle bloom and laurel-

The baby passes from her face, Leaving the lines more delicate, Till in her features I can trace Her mother's smile, serene, sedate. 'Tis something at the hands of fate To watch the onward years unfurl

The beauty of my little girl.

Each line which goes to consecrate The beauty of my little girl. Lord: hear me, as in prayer I wait. Thou givest all; guard Thou my pearl; And, when Thou countest at the Gate Thy jewels, count my little girl.

# SUCCESS. .

He fails who climbs to power and place Up the pathway of disgr He falls not who makes truth his cause, Nor bends to win the crowd's applaus He fails not who stakes his all Upon the right, and dares to fall. What though the living bless or blame? For him the long success of fame.

—Richard Watson Gilder.

#### OF CURRENT INTEREST.

"Ole Uncle" Claybrook is a very religous old darky, and holds converse with his Maker twenty times a day or oftener. into what appears to be a one-sided conversation with the Lord, but it is evident that there is another party to it as far as he is concerned. To hear him reminds one very much of a telephone con-versation. The other day he was going through his customary devotions and when he got to the point of expressing thankfulness for the many blessings of life he broke off into a recounting of them, says the Owensboro (Ky.) Inquirer: "An" den, dar's 'possum, Lohd; how'd you ever think of makin' 'possum? 'Possum jes' beats all. You jes' couldn't beat it if you tried ag'in. 'Possum! he! he! Yes, dar's watha-million. I hadn't thought o' dat. Hit's jes' great. You couldn't beat hit, neither, could you, Lohd? Now, h couldn't you jes' fix it so dey bofe get ripe at oncet? If you wus to do dat you mought go out and shut de do'. Dey mought go out and sin an' no mo' sorrow wouldn't be no mo' sin an' no mo' sorrow an' no mo' tribelation. Jis try hit oncet, an' no mo' tribelation. Jis try hit oncet, an' no mo' tribelation. Lohd, an' jis see whut a diffunce

"Women bootblacks are the latest. Out of the West now comes one," chirps Chat-terer, in the Boston Herald, "who says she is known as the champion 'woo bootblack.' Having established the stands in St. Louis successfully, there is no reason why she should not inspire other cities with the idea of bootblacking parlors, the actual shining being done by colored boys. It must be confessed that colored boys. It must be confessed that some of the interest such a scheme would arouse here is discounted by the boy service. Now, if the ladles would only turn to and polish the boots of the passing stranger, how much more valuable would be the simple process! But I fear the fair sex wishes to shirk hard work. It s all very fine to 'run a blacking stand.' but when it comes to dealing with prosaic eather, milady prefers to be the 'middleman, or, perhaps, I should say the 'mid-dlewoman,' letting somebody else do the

horrid 'shine.' Winans' cigar steamers, quite famous a generation ago, which have lain idle in Southampton water for the last twenty-five years, are now to be broken up and sold for old iron. They represent quite a large and entirely inert investment, and no further experiments in marine construction on the principles which they embody are to be look-ed for. They will always rank among the ed for. They will always rank among the curiosities of shipbuilding, and stand as a sign that the experimental millionaire and his money are sometimes speedily parted.

It has been suggested by a clever writer that some millionaire might do a great service to the antiquarians of some 5,000 years hence by constructing a lasting mon-ument, such as the pyramids, and inclosing in it a number of specially prepared books printed on parchment or other tough paper, together with samples of our scientific and artistic attainments, the whole collection to be hermetically scaled and placed in a secure spot, where time could

The Rev. Mr. Lafayette Johnson, of Owen county, Ky., has some corn raised this sea-son from seed taken from a sealed jar that was found beneath a mound in Missouri. ffteen feet beneath the surface of the earth, two or thre years ago. It has pos sibly been in its hiding place for 3,000 years, according to the Rev. Mr. Johnson's estimate, he being an antiquarian of no mean repute. The grains of the corn grown by im are the color of an Indian

The marriage of Sir Edwin Arnold with a Japanese woman in London is misrepresented by some paragraphers. Arnold mar-ried his bride according to the usage in Japan, but as there were those who placed a wrong interpretation on the act—as if it were a Pierre Loti relation, so to speak he has conformed to English custom. A Tokio newspaper says that the bride was Miss Tama, a pupil of Tokio's seminary, Queen Victoria was an exhibitor at the Bournemouth Chrysanthemum show and

lora Guest was first, and the queen Her majesty also won third prize for six Governor John G. Brady, of Alaska, has written to a friend in Indiana a letter in which he advises all inexperienced men who come to Kloudike to work for wages for at least the first year, and not to come at all unless they intend to stay four or

took first prize for thirty-six Japanese cut blooms, Lady Theodora Guest being second,

For twelve Japanese blooms Lady Theo

five years. Conscience in woman has begun to work in Michigan to the benefit of the cash box. It is reported from Owosso that a woman who worked as a clerk for Osburn & Son twenty years ago has just returned 5 cents

which she took while in their employ, President Faure, of France, has made several visits to the constructive works now in progress for the 1900 exposition, and is particularly interested in the prog-ress made in the foundation for the great

Alexander III. bridge. The Rev. Dr. Russell T, Hall, of Green-wich, Conn., has resigned the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian church there be cause he couldn't stop golf playing on Sunday. heard that he gets sometimes so that one can understand a word he says."